



THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

January 2007
Volume 73 Issue 1

HI-Q



VE3FW—LARC call sign
honours the memory of the
Founding President
P.J. "Pat" O'Shea

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Did You Get Your Tickets?

Annual Dinner Meeting

Saturday, February 17, 2007

at the

Slorak Legion-Sun Room, Atlantic Avenue.

**Tickets available from
all executive members**

Urgently needed

**A Multimedia Projector for the Annual Dinner Meeting
to show a video program from a computer.**

If you can help, or know anyone who may be able to supply one
contact **Bob VE3RVA** at 767-6924 ASAP

- **Next Meeting**
Thursday
January 11, 2007
at the McIntyre Building,
Confederation College
Room 191 at 7:30 pm
- **Annual Dinner Meeting**
February 17, 2007
Get your tickets now!
- **Check into the LARC**
2 Meter ARES Net on YQT
every Tuesday evening at
7:00 pm local time

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	Mount Baldy	147.060 (-600) Phone Patch
VE3TBR	St. Joseph's	146.820 (-600) 442.075 (+5 MHz)
VE3BGA	Hillcrest H.S.	145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz) 442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)
VE3UPP	Upsala	145.470 (-600)



LARC December 14, 2006 MINUTES

Judy VA3EAP, Secretary



Bill **VE3XT**, introduced our speaker for the evening, Emanuel DaRosa. Emanuel is V.P. of Power Systems for Thunder Bay Hydro. He talked to us about Broadband Over Power Line and the Remote Meter Reading System. It was a very interesting presentation with a question and answer session following his talk.

Meeting called to order by President Terry **VA3LU**. There were 27 members and guests present.

Minutes of November 9th meeting - motion to accept Norm **VE3XRC**, seconded by Bob **VE3BHN**, motion carried.

Financial Report presented by Terry **VA3LU** - motion to accept by Joe **VE3TBX**, seconded by Glen **VE3ICY**, motion carried. Randy **VA3OJ**, reported that equipment was ordered for hospital location, \$2496.00 spent so far.

Committee Reports

Equipment, Terry **VA3LU** - all is well! Or all is running as well as can be..TBR is waiting for controller and will be (hopefully) up in January.

Public Service, Mike **VE3ZG** reported that Christmas Parade ran successfully, thanks to all who participated. Next event - March 3rd, Sibley Ski Tour.

ARES, Randy **VA3OJ** reported on the hospital equipment and new controller (as stated earlier), radios and antennas in place and there was a successful practice transmission. In the new year ARES members need their photos taken for new ID cards.

Old Business

Bob **VE3RVA** reminded us of dinner Saturday, February 17th, 2007, cost \$24.00.

New Business

Leo **VE3ATC** apologized for names left off the Membership List that was published in HI-Q. There are new names to add and names left off WILL be added. We try our best !!!!!

Motion to adjourn Bob **VE3BHN**.

The annual dinner meeting will be held on Saturday, February 17,2007
at the Slovak Legion-Sun Room, Atlantic Avenue.

The meal will again be a very delicious buffet with roast beef and chicken and many other food items.

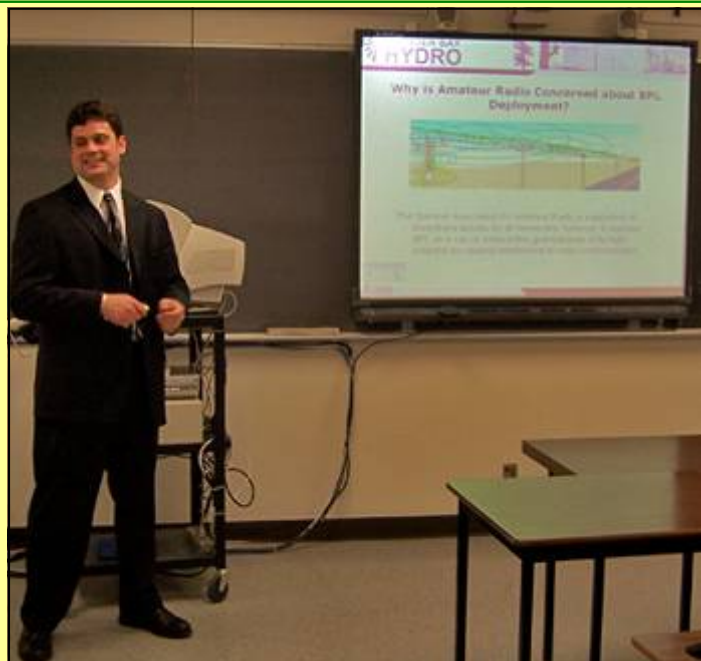
Tickets are available from the executive at cost of \$24.00 per person.

There will be a very interesting guest speaker. This dinner meeting is usually a lot of fun.

Please come out and support your club.

Anyone wishing to donate a door prize or prizes please contact Bob at 767-6924.

Thank you,
Bob VE3RVA

**Last Meeting
Guest Speaker**

Emanuel DaRosa,
V.P. of Power Systems Thunder Bay Hydro
gave a presentation about Broadband Over
Power Lines and the Remote Meter Reading
System

Thanks for the informative presentation, Emanuel !!



Joe VE3TBX

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Treasurers Report

Opening Balance - Dec. 11th, 2006		<u>\$ 8,653.21</u>
Income		
Old Police Radios	\$	120.00
Memberships	\$	70.00
Interest	\$	0.08
50/50 Draw	\$	11.00
Hats	\$	190.00
Total Income	\$	391.08
Expenses		
Thunder Bay Telephone	\$	45.75
Bank Service Fee	\$	1.50
Mallons - Hats	\$	384.56
Meeting Expenses	\$	70.00
Annual Dinner Expenses	\$	63.68
Ares Radio Gear	\$	1,603.30
Controller for club	\$	1,068.87
Total Expenses	<u>\$</u>	<u>3,237.66</u>
Closing Balance - January 5th, 2007	<u>\$</u>	<u>5,806.63</u>

Joe Coghlan - VE3TBX
Treasurer

Amateur News

ARES LETTER

Our ARES district has been asked by a local fire department to teach a basic license course for their radio dispatchers. Regional police have also indicated an interest in a similar course, and efforts are underway to involve dispatchers from two other fire services.

Having taught adult learners for a living, I know how important it is to make the information relevant to their jobs. That's where I need some assistance. Apparently, the idea of dispatchers having radio amateur licenses came from a conference in the U.S. I'd sincerely appreciate hearing from anyone who may have attended such a conference session, or anyone who may be teaching a similar course.

-- Gord Hewit, VE3GIH, <VE3GIH@rac.ca>

The ARES E-Letter December 20, 2006

MISSISSIPPI HAMFEST FORUM REPORT HIGHLIGHTS KATRINA STATUS

[ARRL Delta Division Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, and Vice Director Karl Bullock, WA5TMC, attended the Ocean Springs, Mississippi Hamfest last month. Here are portions of Bullock's report. - ed.]

This was the first hamfest I'd been to on the Gulf Coast since Katrina. The hamfest was a success, though the clubs there have lost membership, and are in the rebuilding stage. The ARRL Forum was the liveliest ever. The attendees were the hams who walked through the fire last year, and we listened carefully.

TRAINING. "We're going to have to look at NIMS training, whether we like it or not", was a recurring comment, along with "but, none of these courses instruct hams how to communicate in an emergency. Such training should be done in person. Clubs would be ideal for conducting this training. Certification would be nice upon completion. Needed is a syllabus, and some training aids, probably in the form of a DVD video that clubs could obtain at minimal cost from the ARRL."

Other comments: Assembling a working station isn't enough. Training on message handling is needed. Attendees liked our idea of having HQ originate test emergency messages, in addition to taking another look at strengthening the SET.

"We weren't ready then, and we're not ready now," was a resonant comment.

LICENSE EXAMS. There should be some emphasis on emergency communications in the VEC Question pool.

LACK OF EQUIPMENT. On the coast, pre-disaster, the local hams had constructed an emergency

communications station complete with equipment necessary to manage a large-scale local disaster. They had radios across the spectrum, including SHARES, local government, HF, VHF, digital, antennas, and backup power with fuel. It was totally destroyed in the early hours of Katrina. Nothing else came close to providing that capability, and equipment that would show up would disappear when those who brought it had to go home. The equipment from HQ was welcome, but again, not everything the operators needed.

They didn't have a solution to the problem, but we do need to look at providing more capability in these large disasters. -- Karl Bullock, WA5TMC, Delta Division Vice Director, and member, ARRL National Emergency Response Planning Committee

The ARES E-Letter December 20, 2006

Wind Powers Local Ham

Phil, **VE3AXL** is in the final stages of turning on his self engineered and fabricated wind generator.



The blades are made from laminated cedar, they are 15' in diameter and weigh about 30 lbs

Phil standing by blade assembly



The two batteries on the left are used for ham radio.

Phil has been working on this project for some time. We are anxiously awaiting his first 'Eureka!!' when his system is fully operational and his first contact through CW is "My Toes are Toasty Warm" from the heat generated by his free power source!

More details, pictures on Phil's blog at
<http://mooreyca.blogspot.com/>



sent this to As It Happens, do you think it will air???? de Wayne

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Morse code wont die

Date: Mon, 18 Dec 2006 20:30:09 -0500

From: Wayne Letang <wletang@tbaytel.net>

To: aih@cbc.ca

Hi my name is Wayne Letang and I am an Amateur Radio Operator in Canada. My callsign is VA3WRL.

My story is a bit of ham humor for those who knew what I did one night while checking in to the Northwestern Ontario ARES net with Morse code and later on with phone with my other callsign. I have 2 callsigns VA3WRL and VE3XFM.

I first checked into the ARES net with CW "Morse code" as VE3XFM and the Net Operator that night said I was QSB "fading in and out" quite bad and needed a relay, I was QRP "lowpower" at 5 watts from across town on the

80 meter band frequency 3.750 MHZ. A local Ham relayed my message and she carried on with the net.. A few check ins later I rechecked in with my other callsign with lowpower again on phone with the callsign VA3WRL and was given the signal report of 5, 9 to 20 over . CW gets through no matter what some say even better than phone. So I caught the Net Operator with their pants down I guess. I was told it was a bit humorous by some one who heard what I pulled off.. I am not sure the net op know what happened yet to this day.

I personally think Morse code will be around for eons to come, there are plenty of QRP Clubs around and the local one we started is the "Little Thunder QRP Club" here in Thunder Bay. Morse code will be like a novelty and most HAMS will probably be doing for years to come. Just look up QRP radio on the net!

You will find a whole world of QRP'ers out there who all use CW Morse Code"..

73 & 88 de **VA3WRL** QTH Thunder Bay

Did it make in on the air, Wayne?

Meet Your Executive - **Randy Gottfred** VA3OJ VA3GOT Director also ARES Emergency Coordinator



A bit about Randy

First licensed, month, year as VA3GOT April 27, 1993, added VA3OJ in 2003

Current level

(basic, avanced) Basic + 5wpm,
Basic + 12wpm Advanced

Usual operating modes

2M, HF, UHF, or whatever If the radio has power to it, it gets used! - Getting set up for 2m SSB

Favourite Operating Frequency

Any favourite frequency you may be found on!
Monitoring all the local repeaters and simplex on 2m 10m

fm, 2m ssb, 28.400mhz on 10 m and all over the hf bands when they are open

Favourite part of ham radio

My favorite part of ham radio is the fact that the radio you are talking on does not judge any one on beliefs or color or gender. We hear a voice much like our own and we share the same enjoyment from talking to friends

I like working on radio projects and have been getting a fair bit of knowledge from other members that are willing to share the experience of getting the job done.

Learning new skills from fellow hams and how I can use these skills to better promote our hobby

Recent investigations by ACMA in Queensland, over the last fortnight, has detected a non approved computer device that emits a signal on 144.600 MHz. The device is a cheap, Chinese made, Active USB Hub.

A sound file is available from the link on the email and internet editions of this broadcast. Its at

<http://reast.asn.au/soundfiles/2Mnoise.wav>

If anyone is experiencing the same type of noise, it is most likely one of these devices and is probably located within a few house blocks of the receiving station.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News reporting from Brisbane, Australia. I'm sure there are some signal sniffers who will seek these things out.

Tnx to John **VE3GTX**



Automating our Membership Lists

by Leo, VE3ATC



An idea that was only a thought a while ago, finally ended in a working program that will help eliminate a lot of recordkeeping, duplicate typing, and copying of membership lists over the year. Not to mention all the frustrations and lost items!

The final touches were made in the last few days while I was under the influence of a flu bug which limited any other physical activities!

I have made use of our new hosting service for our Club website that allows running of several different types of programs in different computer languages. This allowed me to prepare a mysql database, then locate and install interfacing software that would make access to the database friendly and hopefully, intuitive. Future programming changes to the form and database itself, to meet changing requirements, are done in a short time.

Entering information in the database is meant for Club members responsible for maintaining and recording membership details.

The database is accessible over the web, so username and password's are required to log on. This will be limited to Secretary, Treasurer, Hi-Q Editor, and website Administrators for now. Records can be maintained from any home computer with internet access, at any time, so maintenance should be no problem! Anyone logging on will see the same information.

Once the Secretary or Treasurer enters member information, the record can be updated in minutes each year for renewal or other changes. They can also view the whole database at one time, do searches, make changes, and in the future, make personalized printouts! All from the web!

In the near future, I hope to have a web page listing the current members available on larclub.net that is dynamically updated from the database. This means that

when any Club member or website visitor goes to the web page to view the members list, they will actually see the current information that exists in the database. The web page will only show members callsign, name, and level of membership. All other personal information is for internal Club records and will not be publicly available. •

A view of the 'Add Member' form as the operator sees it.

This information is easy to record. Updating the record in the future requires only changing affected fields!

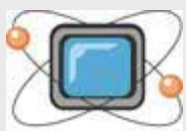
(Notice, I managed to save some future work for myself by including the data to do the Hi-Q mailing list !)



Randy, **VA3OJ** send in this classic!

Anyone with an idea of the timeframe when the photo may have been taken? He is sure there are a lot of hams who would remember those days!

(ed: I would like to see any sign today saying "Hydro power at LOW cost")

**Editors QSK...****ON THE
WEB**

thanks to
John,
VE3EMI



Next solar cycle is going to
be a doozy!

[http://science.nasa.gov/
headlines/
y2006/21dec_cycle24.htm?
list53099](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/21dec_cycle24.htm?list53099)

Digital Transmissions on HF!

[http://n1su.com/windrm/
docs/1.2/](http://n1su.com/windrm/docs/1.2/)

Northern Ontario
Swap Net

[latest listings](#)

Don't Forget to
Check in !!

LARC ARES
2 Meter Net



Every Tuesday
at
7:00 pm
On YQT !!

Hi
Wow, 2007! Who woulda thought
time would fly like this?

I am forced to leave for Florida
(against my will !! , hi) on January 10th,
back on the 27th, for some R&R, pho-
tography and best of all some roaming
with my HT connected to a portable
APRS setup. I will be trying this to see
how well tracking works from a 5 watt
unit, especially off the beaten path. Not
sure of coverage.

You might find me on
[http://www.findu.com/cgi-
bin/find.cgi?call=AC9Q-9](http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=AC9Q-9) after January
12th or so, if all works. In the USA, I
must use my American call **AC9Q**. It will
be an interesting experiment in any
event.

We start 2007 off with a new Mem-
bership database form entry system.
Hope this works well for Judy, **VA3EAP**
who I am always pestering for member-
ship lists! Thanks for your patience,

Judy! Now you can tell me where to go
when I ask for member details, hi !!

Movement is still being made in APRS
in Thunder Bay and on the History Pro-
ject, and the new TBR repeater. Will try
to keep you informed!

Thanks again for all the contributors to
this months Hi-Q! Your input is important
and appreciated!

...-_-

73, Leo VE3ATC

email: ve3atc@spruce.ca

Ps. Not a writer and have a story or pictures?
Contact me and I will help get it out!

Ps If you are interested in helping with Hi-Q publishing,
offers are out to assist me with layout, content, reporting,
etc. I guess this would be like a partner position.
However, we can make up a great title for the position that
will give you warm feelings all over! Contact me for further
info!

See
You
At
The
Meeting!!

Next regular meeting

Thursday
January 11, 2007

McIntyre Building, Confederation
College

Room 191

7:30 pm

A BIT OF WIT – FOR ALL YOU DO-IT-YOURSELFERS

EMPLOYEE
OF THE
WEEK

NAIL-GUN-TOTING ROOFER IS ON THE BALL

August Voegl, 59, an Austrian roofer, was hard at work last week carrying a compressed-air nail gun. But when he suddenly slipped on a roof, Vogel accidentally fired a four-inch nail through one of his testicles. It not only impaled the organ, but fastened it securely to the roof, requiring emergency personnel to separate him from the roof before airlifting him to hospital. Vogel is recovering following surgery.

tnx to Dave, **VE3AVS**

**THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB JOURNAL**

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LARC Website

<http://www.larclub.net>

Hi-Q Editor and Publisher

E-mail: ve3atc@spruce.ca
Leo VE3ATC 939-1020

Hi-Q is published monthly on the Sunday preceding the monthly meeting. Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, except for July and August. Your submissions are welcome at any time. Submit early to ensure publication in next issue! Send to editor at ve3atc@spruce.ca



LARC is a member of [RAC](http://www.rac.ca)

LARC PUBLIC SERVICES**ARES**

District Emergency Coordinator
VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

Emergency Coordinator
VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631
VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628
VA3JMS John 767-3631

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VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
flesnick@tbaytel.net

RAC

[Radio Amateurs of Canada](http://www.radioamateursofcanada.ca)

**LARC
SENATE**

Keith Fiske	VE3JQ
Pat Doherty	VE3PD
Dave Kimpton	VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett	VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson	VA3LU
Ed Baumann	VE3SNW

**LARC
EXECUTIVE
2006—2007****President**

Terry Stewardson VA3LU 577-9439

Vice-President

Bob Hansen VE3RVA 767-6924

Secretary

Judy Artist VA3EAP

Treasurer

Joe Coghlan VE3TBX 344-6566

Directors

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ 474-0910

Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG 767-1714

Bill Unger VE3XT 344-1848

Past President

John Sacek VA3JMS 767-3631

About LARC

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club members have all levels of interest and knowledge in the wide spectrum of amateur radio.

Monthly meetings and contact with other members allow us to share and discuss different ideas, and to learn from each other.

LARC membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, September through June
at 7:30 PM local time at the
McIntyre Building, Confederation College
Room 191

Each meeting consists of a mix of technical and light-hearted topics, with a break for meeting friends and new friends.

Anyone with an interest in ham radio is invited to join us.

Amateur radio classes are also administered by LARC to help you with your Amateur Radio License
contact any of the Executive members above for more information

**2005/2006 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION****LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC****1100C MEMORIAL AVE, SUITE 184,
THUNDER BAY, ONT P7B4A3****CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP****FULL MEMBERSHIP \$35.00-open only to licensed amateurs**

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

TELEPHONE: () _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

MAY WE PUBLISH THE PHONE NUMBER yes / no

MAY WE DELIVER HI-Q BY E-MAIL? yes / no

CALL(S) _____

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP- immediate family residing at the same address holding licenses.
\$35.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional amateur.**NAMES AND CALLS**_____

_____**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP-** \$15.00-open to persons enrolled full time in an education
facility, list School and program _____**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP-** \$20.00-upon approval of the Board and open to:

1) Non holders of an amateur radio license.

2) Licensed amateurs living outside the immediate Thunder Bay area or are unable to attend regular
meetings of the club.If you feel you qualify for associate membership, please indicate why, on a separate sheet, to be used
by the Board to consider your application.

Please mail or bring this form to the next meeting with your cash or cheque for membership fees.

Cheques should be made payable to Lakehead Amateur Radio Club.

Applications and cheques can also be dropped off at the above address.